DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

UPDATED 05/21/98

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR DRY CLEANING FACILITIES

Best management practices can be thought of as using "good housekeeping" practices. Listed below are several procedures to operate your facility and minimize the risk of contamination to the environment.

1. Storage

   a. For facilities storing large amounts of chemicals and/or fuels:

      1. All chemical and fuel storage must have secondary containment. This containment area should be able to hold a 110% of the volume of the largest single tank to be stored in this area.

   b. Hazardous wastes must be stored in DOT approved containers, labeled, and in a safe area where accidental spills are less likely to occur (i.e. away from doors, stairs, ramps, high traffic area, etc.).

   c. Chemical storage areas must be an impervious surface with secondary containment or a bermed and covered area away from drainage structures (e.g. floor drains or storm drains).

   d. All drycleaning machines and equipment that have a tank capacity of more than one quart in which solvents and waste solvents are stored, must have secondary containment. It must be able to contain at least 110% of the capacity of each such machine or item of equipment. Floor surfaces must be sealed underneath and two feet around all machines or equipment. The sealant must be compatible with and resistant to drycleaning solvents.

2. Waste disposal

a. Perchloroethylene (Perc), mineral spirits (with a flash point below 140 degrees Fahrenheit), spent filter cartridges, still bottoms from solvent distillation, lint, condensate water and any absorbents used in cleaning floors and/or cleaning spills, are hazardous materials or wastes.

1. Condensate water from dry cleaning unit, spotting table, vacuum machine for presses may be a potential hazardous waste and therefore, need to be disposed off as hazardous unless profiled for alternate disposal methods.

b. All hazardous waste must be disposed of via a Dade County permitted hazardous waste transporter and taken to a federally approved hazardous waste disposal facility. Receipts of all waste disposals and hazardous waste manifests must be retained for no less than three (3) years, at the generator's facility, and be available for review.

c. Waste filters from Exxon DF 2000 can be disposed off at Resource Recovery. They are not allowed to be disposed in the general trash. Sludge generated by cooking process will need to be profiled to determine proper disposal method.

d. Any facility generating hazardous waste must obtain an Environmental Protection Agency Identification number by contacting:

Notification Coordinator
Bureau of Waste Planning and Regulation
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
Two Towers Office Building Room 471
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400
(904) 488-4805

e. Florida law requires dry cleaning facilities to register with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

PHONE (904)488-0190
FAX (800789-4402 "fax on demand"

f. Florida law also requires dry cleaning facilities to

obtain air permits with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

PHONE: (800)722-7457

3. Storm drains

   a. Special attention should be paid to storm drain locations. Storm drains are designed to help alleviate rainwater build-up. These drains do not discharge to the sanitary sewer system, instead they allow rainwater to drain into the ground and/or groundwater. Therefore, no discharges, other than rainwater, are allowed to go to these storm drains. Areas nearby storm drains should be kept free of oil and grease and other contaminants so that the rainwater does not wash them into the storm drains.

4. Other Potential Sources of Contamination

   a. Machinery not properly maintained may allow perc to be discharged directly onto floor and may allow air emissions. All leaking parts or equipment must be repaired immediately. All spills should be collected with absorbent materials. Contaminated absorbent material must be disposed of via a hazardous waste transporter. All hazardous waste receipts and manifests must be maintained on site for no less than three (3) years.

   b. Solvent and all other industrial fluids cannot be discharged into septic tanks, sanitary sewers, storm drains, soakage pits and/or onto ground surface. These fluids must be collected and disposed of via a DERM approved hauler.

   c. Residue or wash down from spot remover chemicals cannot be discharged to sinks or floor drains. They must be collected and disposed of via a hazardous waste transporter.

   d. Containers should be placed underneath release valves to collect any liquid condensate that drips when the valve is opened and pressure is relieved.

   e. When clothes are transferred from machine to machine

in a wet system, or for special cleaning all dripping must be collected due to the amount of perc still on the clothing.

f. Any material or waste from the maintenance of the perc residue tank must be treated as hazardous, therefore, there should be the minimal amount of handling possible. Any rags used in wiping down the muck rod must be disposed of with the hazardous waste.

g. All water from boiler blowdown should be discharged to the sanitary sewers. No boiler blowdown should be discharged to the ground.

h. No overflow from the cooling tower should be discharged to the ground. Condensate water must not be disposed of in this system.

i. All boiler fuel tanks are required to have secondary containment to prevent discharge of fuel to the floor or the ground.

j. Label all containers with the type of waste and accumulation start

Any questions will answered by the Industrial Facilities Section at 372-6600.